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of Prussia; they would have a serious meaning. "Let us disarm, by all means; but let 'Messieurs the Conquerors' begin."

To all of which it may be replied that, while it cannot be expected of the young ruler of Germany that he will yet a while follow in the footsteps of the Mikado of Japan and voluntarily surrender his choicest prerogatives, chief among them that of the headship of the greatest standing army of modern times, the fact that disarmament is already the rallying cry of a constantly increasing party, and that every day new advocates of the policy are making themselves heard, is a fact of pregnant import. And nothing is truer than that every passing hour is hurrying us on to one of two solutions of a no longer tolerable situation—either a gigantic conflict or disarmament and the latter because it will be physically impossible for the nations longer to sustain the present demands on their overtaxed powers.—*N. Y. Sun.*

#### MEANING OF SINCERITY.

In the palmy days of Roman prosperity, when her merchants lived in their marble palaces on the banks of the Tiber, there was a sort of emulation in the grandeur and artistic adornment of their dwellings. Good sculptors were eagerly sought after and employed. But tricks were sometimes practised then as now; thus, if the sculptor came upon a flaw in the marble, or chipped a piece out by accident, he had a carefully prepared wax with which he filled in the chink, and so carefully fixed it as to be imperceptible. In process of time, however, heat or damp would effect the wax, and reveal its presence there. The consequence was, that when new contracts were made for commissioned works of art, a clause was added to the effect that they were to be *sine cera*, or without cement.—*J. Tesseyman.*

#### A PEACE CHURCH.

The discipline of Bible Christian Church of Philadelphia requires its members to be admitted by baptism; to partake of the Holy Supper; to abstain from eating flesh, fish or fowl as food; from drinking intoxicating liquors of all kinds; from war and capital punishment and slavery; the observance of the Sabbath as a day of worship and religious instruction, also public and private prayer. These principles are believed to be taught and enjoined by the letter and spirit of the word of God, as conducing to man's receptivity of the Holy Spirit.

#### THEATRICALS.

There are in the United States and Canada 3410 theatrical towns—places, that is, in which theatrical performances are habitually given. Distributed through these towns there are 5212 theatres, not every one an especially equipped theatre, but every one adapted for theatrical business and customarily used for it. The number of actors in this country is 2527; the number of managers is 365; the number of stars and combinations that were last year on their professional travels through this land is 249; the number of persons directly and indirectly employed by the stage is not less than 50,000.

#### FOOLISH AND INCENDIARY.

No one supposes that the American people would give up the contest until Germany had received a sound drubbing. We have surplus and revenues enough, with taxes now at a minimum point, to carry on desultory war until we are in fighting trim. While we are getting ready we can prohibit the entry of German manufactures into the United States.

If, for the time being, Germany should try to blockade our ports, in less than sixty days we would find an English fleet on our coasts involved in protecting her own trade with the United States.

England and France would be forced as a measure of industrial self-defence to protect their vessels and their trade with the United States.

We have the money, and could easily spend \$250,000,000 in ships and appliances of war.

With \$50,000,000 in sixty days I could put an improvised fleet in motion which would make short work of German commerce. There are 600 German steamers afloat. I know where they are. We have fleet ships; I could pick them out now. We could buy more. They would answer for privateers.

We are always prosperous in time of war.

— ADMIRAL PORTER, in *Evening Star.*

#### HOW RECRUITS ARE OBTAINED.

The average recruit, enlisted principally in the large cities of our country, has no permanent residence; he belongs, generally, to that idle, roaming, floating population, and after enlisting finds his new sphere not as he expected. He becomes dissatisfied with his lot, the military life is distasteful to him owing to his idle former career, and probably depressed in spirits, and shrinking from the prospect of uncongenial duty, he deserts and resumes his former "tramping" career until nearly starved, when he again enlists under another assumed name. He is furnished with another outfit of clothing and blankets, and being fully equipped in the garb of an American soldier he again goes forth ready for more "pay day drunks," and so he goes, on and on, from one regiment to another, and from one branch of the service to another. He may in the meantime bring up now and then at the "Hotel de Leavenworth" for a year or two for recuperation and repairs to his much worn stomach. He is then furnished with a suit of civilian clothing and presented with five American dollars to procure him transportation to the nearest recruiting office, where he again swears allegiance to the "flag" for another five years. This is about the experience of the average recruit enlisted in our large cities. — *Army and Navy Journal.*

Of John Bright it has been truly said, the Bible he knew well, and if Bright's own incomparable style now and then suggests any original it is the greater prophets of the Old Testament.

A little Ohio miss, who was spending a few days with a farmer uncle, visited the barn, and while looking at the well-fed cows, remarked, "Why, Uncle, just see! all the cows are chewing gum, aren't they?"